1993. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have taken various steps to improve the recovery performance of the commercial banks in respect of their advances to various sectors. The effective performance in this regard is looked into by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) primarily during the inspection carried out at periodic intervals, the nonperforming assets of commercial banks commented in the inspection report is closely monitored emphasising among others, the need for better recovery performance during the time of discussion with the Chairman and Managing Directors of the concerned banks. In addition, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has also prescribed prudential norms regarding capital adequacy, income recognition, assets classification and provisioning, so as to improve the assets quality of banks.

Restructuring of BICP

1134. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a proposal to form a penal to compare domestic costs and prices with those abroad to protect the local industry and to improve efficiency;

(b) if so, whether such a panel has been established and if so, the details thereof and the outcome thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether there was also a proposal to restructure Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP), into a Tariff Commission; and

(e) if so, the progresess made therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) There is no proposal to form a panel to compare domestic costs and prices with those prevailing abroad.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The Finance Minister in his budget speech for 1991-92 had made a mention regarding restructuring the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP). The matter is under examination of the Government.

Educational Loan Scheme

1135. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the grounds of eligibility for availing of bank loans under the Educational Loan Scheme; and

(b) the details of loans provided under the Educational Loan Scheme, State-wise, during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the ground of eligibility of the student for availing of educational loan under priority sector is decided by commercial banks depending on the circumstances of each case. Normally education loans are given for higher studies in India upto college/University level leading to degree|diploma including post graduate degrees However, banks are free to grant education loans for pursuing studies upto school level. Also advances granted by banks to individuals for education purposes under special scheme, if any, introduced by them are covered under priority sector lending.

State/Union Territorise-wise data regarding educational loans provided by commercial banks during the years ended June, 1991, 1992 and 1993